

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A mounting system for mounting an object to the railing of a deck. The mounting system includes a base structure having a top side and a bottom side, wherein
5 the base structure lay across the top of the deck rail. A support post extends upwardly from the base structure. The base structure of the mounting system engages the top rail using two opposing elements that extend from the base structure down along the sides of
10 the top rail. Each of the opposing elements defines a plurality of stepped surfaces that are generally parallel to the base structure. However, each of the stepped surfaces on the opposing elements, are at different distances from the bottom of the base
15 structure. The stepped surfaces are positioned at points that correspond to common thicknesses of the lumber used in the construction of deck rails.